

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending. Claims 1, 6 and 11-15 have been amended and claim 16 has been cancelled. No new matter has been presented.

Claims 11-15 are rejected under 35 USC § 101 on the grounds that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 11-15 have been amended to overcome this rejection. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Murahashi, U.S. Patent No. 5,864,652. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "a single processor comprising a processing unit configured to process image data and a compression unit, both of which are software procedures executed by the single processor." This feature is not taught or suggested by Murahashi. Murahashi discloses a printer including a compression processor that runs in parallel and independently from the print engine so that the compression and storage operations do not hinder or slow down the page printing operation. See Murahashi, Col. 4: 28-32. In Murahashi, the compression and storage of data is handled by a first processor (CPU 1) and processing of image data is handled by a separate and independent second processor (CPU 2). See Murahashi, Col. 5: 61 – Col. 6: 15. In contrast, the claimed invention utilizes a single processor to perform both the processing and compression of image data. Thus, Murahashi fails to anticipate claim 1.

Accordingly, claim 1 is submitted as allowable over Murahashi. Claims 6 and 11 recite similar features as claim 1 and are allowable for the same reasons. Claims 2-5, 7-10 and 12-15 are dependent variously on claims 1, 6 or 11 and are submitted as allowable for at least the same reasons.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is

determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. **325772034000**.

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Respectfully submitted,

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